

In the Claims:

- 1.(currently amended)        An automatic washing machine detergent dispensing device comprising a detergent bar comprising a detergent composition, a detergent additive, or a detergent composition which includes a detergent additive, said detergent bar ~~bar of detergent or detergent additive~~ disposed within a channel, wherein the detergent bar completely fills at least a portion of the channel across the entire bore of the channel, the channel having an inlet aperture which is in communication therewith.
- 2.(currently amended)        A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 1, wherein the channel has a uniform bore, along its length or ~~at least along the portion~~ filled by the detergent bar.
- 3.(currently amended)        A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the channel is a tube.
- 4.(currently amended)        A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 4, wherein the tube is cylindrical.
- 5.(currently amended)        A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the channel has one open end which communicates with the inlet aperture.
- 6.(currently amended)        A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 5, wherein the channel comprises a form similar to a drinking glass.
- 7.(currently amended)        A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with claim 1, 2, 3 or 4~~, wherein the channel has a plurality of ~~(such as two)~~ open ends each of which being in communication with an inlet aperture.

- 8.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 5, wherein the channel comprises a tube both ends of which are open.
- 9.(currently amended) A device according to claim 5 ~~in accordance with claim 5,6,7 or 8~~, wherein the open end of the channel comprises the inlet aperture.
- 10.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the channel has a secondary aperture.
- 11.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 10, wherein the secondary aperture comprises a slit in the side of the channel.
- 12.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 10, wherein the secondary aperture may comprise a plurality of separate apertures.
- 13.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein a barrier is arranged around the periphery of the channel.
- 14.(currently amended) A device according to claim 13 ~~in accordance with claims 13~~, wherein the barrier comprises a sleeve arranged around the exterior of the channel.
- 15.(currently amended) A device according to claim 10 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 10 to 14~~, wherein the diameter of the secondary aperture is larger than the holes of the dishwasher sieve.

- 16.(currently amended) A device according to claim 10 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 10 to 14~~, wherein the diameter of the secondary aperture is less than 5mm.
- 17.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 16~~, wherein the device comprises a means to control the amount of wash liquor which contacts the detergent bar.
- 18.(currently amended) A device according to claim 17 ~~in accordance with claim 17~~, wherein the means comprises a collecting funnel.
- 19.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 18, wherein the collecting funnel has a drainage opening in its collecting portion.
- 20.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 19~~, wherein the channel comprises a water-resistant or ~~water~~ insoluble material.
- 21.(currently amended) The use of an automatic washing machine detergent dispensing device in an automatic washing machine in an automatic washing machine process, wherein the device comprises a bar of detergent disposed within a channel, the detergent bar completely filling at least a portion of the channel across the entire bore of the channel, the channel having an aperture which is in communication therewith.
- 22.(currently amended) An automatic washing machine process, comprising the step of providing to an automatic washing machine a detergent dispensing device, wherein the device comprises a bar of detergent disposed within a channel, the detergent bar completely filling at least a portion of the channel across the entire

bore of the channel, the channel having an aperture which is in communication therewith.